

TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD

Public Safety Committee
Town Hall, 50 South Main Street, Room 312
June 7, 2018
8:00 AM

MINUTES

Attendance

Leon Davidoff (Chair), Chris Williams, Liam Sweeney, Beth Kerrigan (by phone), Chris Barnes (by phone)

Staff

Matt Hart (Town Manager), Pat Alair (Corporation Counsel, by phone), Peter Privitera (Director of Finance), Vernon Riddick (Police Chief), Dan Coppinger (Assistant Police Chief), Robert McCue (Assistant Police Chief), Gary Allyn (Fire Chief), Mike Sinsigalli (Assistant Fire Chief)

Members of the Public

1. Call to Order

Councilor Davidoff called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM.

2. Staff Reports/Communications

Town Manager welcomed Chief Riddick to his first Public Safety committee meeting. He also stated that the bulk of the meeting would be dedicated to the write-off policy for paramedic services. The process for the Town study is ongoing.

3. Police Department Update

Chief Riddick and Assistant Chief Coppinger updated the committee on recent police activity, including robberies, fatal overdoses, shootings, and bear trappings. They highlighted personnel updates including police recruits and graduations.

4. Fire Department Update

Chief Allyn updated the committee on recent fire activity, including 7 building fires which ranged in scope and size. He briefed the committee on personnel updates including the department's 13 vacancies, promotions, battalion chief selections,

and lieutenant examinations. The department will continue to hire certified paramedics until it reaches 30.

a. Write-Off Policy for Paramedic Service Town Manager Matt Hart, Chief Gary Allyn, and Finance Director Peter Privitera updated the committee on the status of the write-off policy for paramedic service. Staff provided an overview of the initial policy, the impact of suspending the policy as it relates to paramedic intercept billing, and proposed two billing options designed to limit patient out of pocket expenses. The Town is trying to keep costs as close as possible to the amount patients would have been billed under AMR.

5. Adjournment

The next Public Safety committee will be July 19th at 8:00am. Councilor Davidoff adjourned the meeting at 8:50 AM.